AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

 (Previously Presented) A method of transdifferentiating a monocytic cell into an endothelial cell, comprising:

providing a monocytic cell; and

artificially increasing the expression of pleiotrophin (PTN) in the monocytic cell by transducing the monocytic cell in vitro with a retrovirus expressing PTN such that the monocytic cell transdifferentiates into an endothelial cell.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the retrovirus is a bicistronic retrovirus
- (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the monocytic cell is a RAW cell or a THP-1 cell.

5-10. (Cancelled)

- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the monocytic cell transdifferentiates into an endothelial cell in vitro.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the monocytic cell transdifferentiates into an endothelial cell in vivo.

13-19. (Cancelled.)